

WI-27
Gethsemane
Quantico vicinity (site)
Private

c. 1800

Documented by the Michael Bourne in 1970 as part of the Maryland Historical Trust's initial effort to locate important structures in Wicomico County, this prominent two-and-a-half story brick house stood on the north side of Quantico Creek along Cherry Walk Road until it was destroyed by fire around 1975. The chain of title research for the property traces the land, known as "Gethsemane," back to a seventeenth century patent for 900 acres, issued in 1674 to William Stevens.⁽¹⁾ The double-pile brick house photographed and described by Michael Bourne was built much later. Architectural features detailed in the field sheet suggest a date around the turn of the nineteenth century, which is supported by the absence of the structure on the 1798 Federal Direct tax assessment.

In 1797, Thomas Garrettson purchased sizable acreage including part of Gethsemane and a smaller tract known as Long Delay, for which he paid L1200. The year after, the federal assessors visited the property of Thomas Garrettson on Quantico Creek and found

Situate at Quantico 1 fraimed wood dwelling house, 1 story 18 by 22, 1 hewed log cook house very old 16 by 12, 1 Milk House wood fraimed 1 story 9 by 18, 1 sawed log meat house 1 story 12 by 13, 1 fraimed wood stable 1 story 32 by 20

The plantation complex was valued at \$200. He was also listed with a tenant farm at the head of Manumsco Creek occupied by James Knight and improved by "1 fraimed wood dwelling house, 1 story, 16 by 20 ft., 1 old wood fraimed kitchen, 1 story, 16 by 12." The complex was assessed at \$150. In addition to these holdings he was listed in the land evaluation with 599 acres and some other agricultural buildings including a "sawed log corn house, 24 by 11, a fraimed wood store house, 1 story, 18 by 24 and an "old fraimed barn 20 by 26." The land assessment totaled \$3000. There were no slaves on the plantation according to the federal assessors.

Clearly, by the testimony of the federal assessors in 1798 it is evident that the prominent two-story brick house was erected sometime later, and the architectural features suggest a date within the following few years of the tax evaluation.

Supported on a raised foundation, the Flemish bond brick house had a center entrance filled with a raised six-panel door topped by a diamond-pane transom. A similar transom design remains on the house known as Cedar Hill in Somerset County, which was erected in 1793. Tall brick chimneys finished with corbeled caps rose from each gable end to serve the double pile dwelling. Sometime during the early to mid nineteenth century the exterior was covered with scored stucco and a Greek Revival portico was erected over the front entrance.

Thomas Garrettson was a relatively wealthy planter in his day, by he is perhaps better known as the father of Freeborn Garrettson, the Methodist minister who traveled throughout the peninsula helping to established early Methodist congregations, including the early society in Quantico. Freeborn Garrettson surely visited his father's plantation many times, especially during his travels across the lower Eastern Shore.

Gethsemane as well as a number of other tracts remained in Thomas Garrettson's hands until his death, however he died intestate, thereby forcing the Somerset County court to ascertain the value of the plantation on behalf of the surviving heirs. The property was divided in two parts by the court. A 311 1/2-acre tract with the house was sold at public sale to Caleb Kennerly for \$6,233.11 1/2.

Kennerly family ownership of the Gethsemane plantation stretched from 1829 until 1884, and it was probably during the early part of the period that the house was stuccoed and the portico attached. Caleb Kennerly died in 1847, and his will bequeathed the property to his wife, Julian. In 1856, Julia A. Kennerly transferred title of the plantation to William H. Farrington, the husband of Caleb and Julia's eldest daughter, Zenophine.

William H. Farrington was one of the wealthiest farmers in Quantico election

district during the third quarter of the nineteenth century. He is designated at this site on the 1877 Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas, and he is included in the patron list with the largest land holdings in the district, totaling 1368 acres. During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries the property was owned by Orlando W. Taylor.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Gethsemane Thomas Garrettson House

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-27

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture
2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore
3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Rural Agrarian Intensification
1680-1815
Agricultural-Industrial Transition
1815-1870
4. Resource Type(s): Site

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. WI-27

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Gethsemane Kennerly House Thomas Garrettson House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number South side of Cherry Walk Road ☐ not for publication

city, town Quantico ☒ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: site

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Marcus W. Acworth & Son, Inc.

street & number 6305 Quantico Road telephone no.:

city, town Quantico state and zip code Maryland 21856

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court Map 35 Parcel 29
liber 351

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 316

city, town Salisbury state MD 21801

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties

date 1970 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

pository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Crownsville state MD 21032

7. Description

Survey No. WI-27

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Historically identified as the Kennerly house or by its tract name "Gethsemane," this two-and-a-half story, three-bay, double-pile brick house formerly stood on the south side of Cherry Walk Road approximately a mile and a half west of the village of Quantico, Wicomico County, Maryland. The house was erected with a northern exposure with the principal roof oriented on an east/west axis. The house was destroyed by fire between 1970 and 1975.

Estimated to date around 1800, the two-story, three-bay double pile brick house was supported on a raised foundation pierced by segmental arched openings filled with mortise and tenon frame grills. The front wall was laid in Flemish bond, but the entire exterior was covered with a thin coat of stucco scored to imitate ashlar construction. The asphalt shingle roof had a distinctly steep 45 degree pitch. Attached to the east gable end of the house was a two-story, tee-shaped frame wing that dated to the late nineteenth century. It was built on brick piers and covered with asphalt siding impressed with a brick pattern. The steeply pitched gable roof was covered with asphalt shingles, and the edges to the roof were finished with extended eaves and open soffits.

The north (main) facade of the stuccoed brick house followed a symmetrical fenestration with a center entrance and flanking two-over-two sash windows. The raised six-panel door was topped by a diamond-pane transom, probably similar to the design of the Cedar Hill transom in Somerset County dating from 1793. (S-195) The entrance bay was sheltered by an early to mid nineteenth century neoclassical Greek Revival portico. The second floor was lighted by three evenly spaced two-over-two sash windows. Finishing the base of the roof was a boxed cornice trimmed with bed and crown moldings common to the late eighteenth century. The north slope of the roof was marked by three gable roof dormers filled with six-over-six sash windows. The gable ends had interior end brick chimneys finished with corbeled caps.

8. Significance

Survey No. WI-27

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates	Builder/Architect
check: Applicable Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D and/or Applicable Exception: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G Level of Significance: <input type="checkbox"/> national <input type="checkbox"/> state <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> local	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

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In 1797, Thomas Garrettson purchased sizable acreage including part of Gethsemane and a smaller tract known as Long Delay, for which he paid L1200.(2) The year after, the federal assessors visited the property of Thomas Garrettson on Quantico Creek and found

Situate at Quantico 1 fraimed wood dwelling house, 1 story 18 by 22, 1 hewed log cook house very old 16 by 12, 1 Milk House wood fraimed 1 story 9 by 18, 1 sawed log meat house 1 story 12 by 13, 1 fraimed wood stable 1 story 32 by 20

The plantation complex was valued at \$200.(3) He was also listed with a tenant farm at the head of Manumsc Creek occupied by James Knight and improved by "1 fraimed wood dwelling house, 1 story, 16 by 20 ft., 1 old wood fraimed kitchen, 1 story, 16 by 12." The complex was assessed at \$150.(4) In addition to these holdings he was listed in the land evaluation with 599 acres and some other agricultural buildings including a "sawed log corn house, 24 by 11, a fraimed wood store house, 1 story, 18 by 24 and an "old fraimed barn 20 by 26." The land assessment totaled \$3000.(5) There were no slaves on the plantation according to the federal assessors.

(Continued)

8.1 SIGNIFICANCE
Gethsemane, WI-27
Quantico vicinity (site)

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Thomas Garrettson was a relatively wealthy planter in his day, but he is perhaps better known as the father of Freeborn Garrettson, the Methodist minister who traveled throughout the peninsula helping to establish Methodist congregations, including the early society in Quantico. Freeborn Garrettson surely visited his father's plantation many times, especially during his travels across the lower Eastern Shore.

Gethsemane as well as a number of other tracts remained in Thomas Garrettson's hands until his death, however he died intestate, thereby forcing the Somerset County Court to ascertain the value of plantation for the benefit of the surviving heirs. The property was divided into two. A 311 ½-acre tract with the house was sold at public sale to Caleb Kennerly for \$6,233.11 ½.(6)

Kennerly family ownership of the Gethsemane plantation stretched from 1829 until 1884. Caleb Kennerly died in 1847, and his will bequeathed the property to his wife Juliann.(7) In 1856, Julia A. Kennerly transferred title of the plantation to William H. Farrington, the husband of Caleb and Julia's eldest daughter, Zenophine.(8)

William H. Farrington was one of the wealthiest farmers in Quantico election district during the third quarter of the nineteenth century. He is designated at this site on the 1877 Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas and he is included in the patron list with the largest land holdings in the district, totaling 1368 acres.(9) During the late nineteenth and early twentieth century the property was owned by Orlando W. Taylor.(10)

8.2 SIGNIFICANCE
Gethsemane, WI-27
Quantico vicinity (site)

FOOTNOTES

- 1 Ruth T. Dryden, *Land Records of Wicomico County, 1666-1810*. Westminster, Maryland: Family Line Publications, 1992, p. 163.
- 2 Somerset County Land Record, L/123, 11/8/1797, Somerset County Courthouse.
- 3 Federal Direct Tax Assessment, 1798, Somerset County, Rewastico Hundred, Thomas Garrettson, Particular List of Dwelling Houses, Delmarva Research Center for History and Culture, Salisbury State University.
- 4 *Ibid.*
- 5 Federal Direct Tax Assessment, 1798, Somerset County, Rewastico Hundred, Thomas Garrettson, Particular List of Lands, Delmarva Research Center for History and Culture, Salisbury State University.
- 6 Somerset County Land Record, GH 4/496, 5/8/1829, Somerset County Courthouse.
- 7 Somerset County Will Book, JP 5/134, Last Will and Testament of Caleb Kennerly, Written 5/15/1847, Proved 6/6/1847, Somerset County Courthouse.
- 8 Somerset County Land Record, LW 5/158, 10/6/1856, Somerset County Courthouse.
- 9 John L. Graham, ed. *The 1877 Atlases and Other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*. Salisbury, Maryland: Peninsula Press, 1976, p. 50.
- 10 Wicomico County Land Record, SPT 6/458, 8/8/1884, Wicomico County Courthouse.

WI-27
Gethsemane
Quantico vicinity (site)
Private

Map 35, Parcel 29

351/316

Marcus W. Acworth, widower

to

4/1/1953

M. W. Acworth & Son, Inc.

Item Second: "Home Farm," of the late Orlando
W. Taylor and Annie B. Taylor, called Gethesemne (sic)
and also known as the William H. Farrington land

218 acres

JWS 240/572

Seth P. Taylor, trustee, et al.

to

2/7/1942

Marcus W. Acworth
Rosalie T. Acworth

Decree of Circuit Court, 1/11/1941, Kathryn T. Conway
et al. were complainants and Clifford A. Taylor, et al.
were defendants

JWS 223/535

Kathryn T. Conway
William R. Conway

to

6/4/1940

Margaret A. Conway

WI-27
Gethsemane
Quantico vicinity (site)
Chain of title continued

Page 2

EAT 76/458

George W. Bell

to

10/14/1911

Orlando W. Taylor
Annie B. Taylor

“on which the said Taylor now lives”

“Gethsemane”

EAT 76/457

Orlando W. Taylor
Annie B. Taylor

to

10/13/1911

George W. Bell

SPT 6/458

Charles F. Holland, trustee

to

8/8/1884

Orlando W. Taylor

Sell land of Willilam H. Farrington, deceased

Chancery Case No. 398 Charles F. Holland
was appointed trustee,

wife, Zenophine Farrington

WI-27
Gethsemane
Quantico vicinity
Chain of title continued

Page 3

Somerset County
Land Record
LW 5/158

Julia A. Kennerly

to

10/6/1856

William H. Farrington

\$6,000.00 real estate which was in the report and plat of the commissioners appointed by Somerset County to value the real estate of Caleb Kennerly deceased

Lot No. 1 218 6/8 acres

(Mortgage LW 5/159 between Julia A. Kennerly from William H. Farrington, deed mentions all that farm called "The Cherry Walk," which descended to said William H. Farrington as heir of Emma Jones

Somerset County
Will Book
JP 5/134

Last Will and Testament of Caleb Kennerly

to

Written
5/15/1847
Proved
6/6/1847

Item to my dearly beloved wife Juliann Kennerly I give and bequeath the one third of my whole estate and personal except such parts thereof as are specially disposed of hereafter
Eldest daughter, Zenophine Kennerly

WI-27
Gethsemane
Quantico vicinity
Chain of title continued

Page 4

Somerset County
Land Record
GH 4/496

Peregrine Weatherly

to

5/8/1829

Caleb Kennerly

Whereas a certain Edward Austin did April Term of Somerset County Court, 1816, did petition the court as a result of Thomas Garrettson, late of Somerset County, died intestate and seized of an estate part of a tract called Gethsamene, a tract called Delight, a tract called Long Delay, and a tract called Middle tract, Thomas Garrettson left the following children: John A. Garrettson, Richard W. Garrettson, Leah Trader, Freeborn Garrettson, Eleanor Evans, wife of William Evans and Thomas Garrettson a minor

Estate incapable of division, as a result the Somerset County court intervened to divide the land into two tracts:

Lot the first 311 ½ acres set up at public sale and Caleb Kennerly became the purchaser at \$20.01 per acre including the widow's dower making the sum of \$6,233.11 ½

Lot No. Two 339 ½ acres Thomas Goslee became the purchaser, \$10.75 per acre with the widow's dower \$3,649.62 ½

WI-27
Gethsemane
Quantico vicinity
Chain of title continued

Page 5

L/123

George Gale and Littleton Gale of Cecil County,
Levin Gale, Samuel Wilson and Leah his wife
of Somerset County

to

11/8/1797

Thomas Garrettson of Somerset County

L2100 parcels of land lying on the north side
of Quantico Creek which were devised by
Ephraim King deceased to Levin Gale, late of
Somerset County, deceased

Gethsamon, which the said Ephraim bought of
Matthew Kemp and Robert Jones, all that tract
of land called Long Delay, which Ephraim took
up himself

1798 Federal Direct Tax Assessment, Somerset County, Rewastico Hundred

Owner-Thomas Garrettson
Occupant-Thomas Garrettson

Situate at Quantico 1 fraimed wood dwelling house 1 story 18 by 22 feet 1 hewed log
cook house very old 16 by 12 1 Milk House wood fraimed 1 story 9 by 18. 1 sawed log
meat house 1 story 12 by 13 1 fraimed wood stable 1 story 32 by 20

\$200.00

Owner-Thomas Garrettson
Occupant-James Knight

situate near the head of Minumco 1 fraimed wood dwelling house 1 story 16 by 20 ft.
1 old wood fraimed kitchen 1 story 16 by 12 ft.

\$150.00

WI-27
Gethsemane
Quantico vicinity
Chain of title continued

Page 6

1798 Federal Direct Tax Assessment, Somerset County, Rewastico Hundred

Particular List of Lands, Owner-Thomas Garrettson

situate at Quantico 1 sawed log corn house 24 by 11 ft.
1 fraimed wood store house 1 story 18 by 24 1 old fraimed wood barn 20 by 26

599 acres \$3000

No slaves

Thomas Garrettson House
(Kennerly House)

QUANTICO
Dist. No 2
WICOMICO Co.

QUANTICO BUSINESS REFERENCES.
T. J. TURPIN, Dealer in Dry Goods, Notions, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Ready-made Clothing, &c.
Dr. W. H. DASHIELL, Physician and Surgeon.

QUANTICO

Dist. No 2
WICOMICO Co.

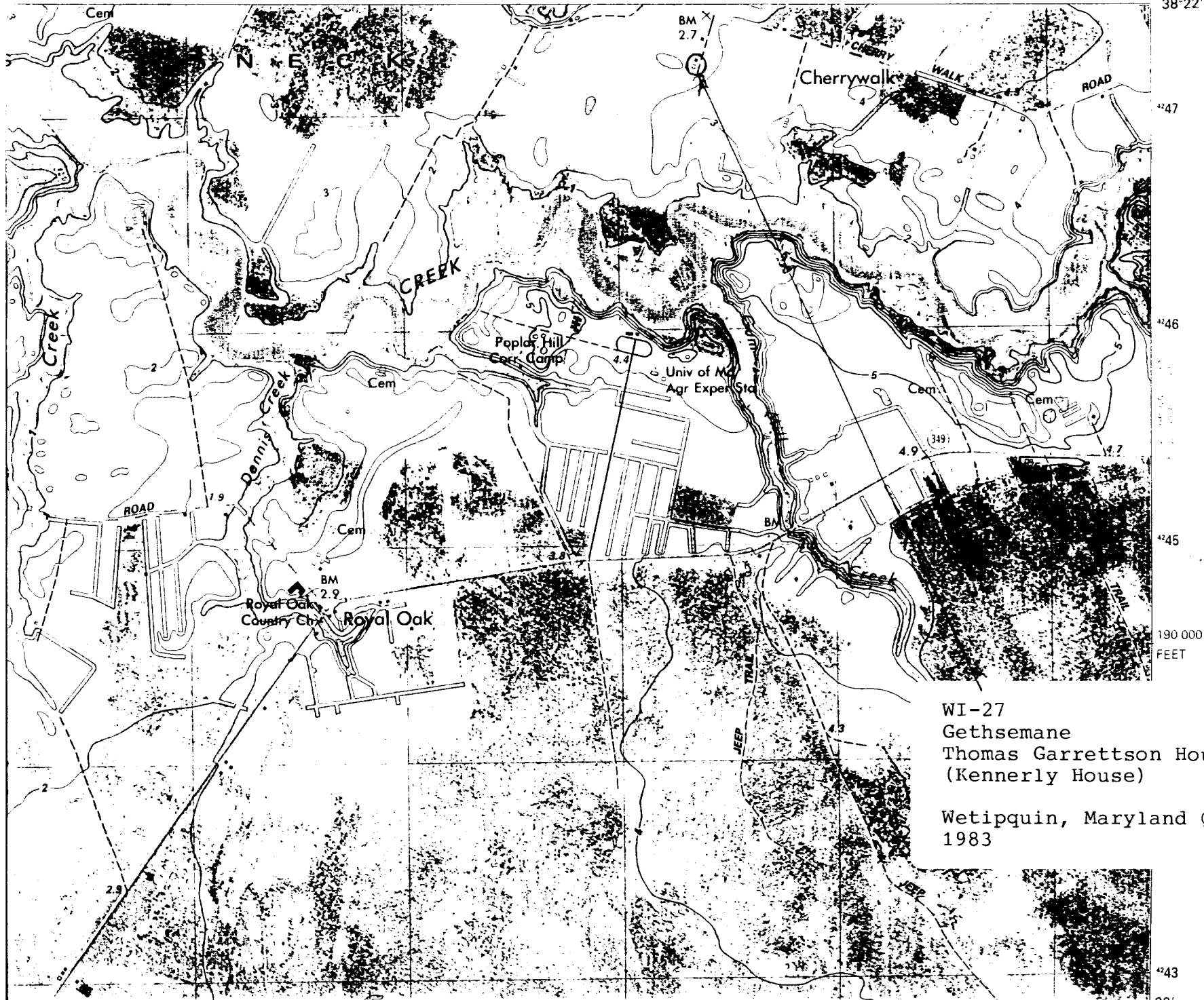
QUANTICO BUSINESS REFERENCES.

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Caps, Boots, Shoes, Ready-made Clothing, &c.
Dr. W. H. H. DASHIELL, Physician and Surgeon.

WETIPQUIN QUADRANGLE
 MARYLAND
 7.5 MINU SERIES ORTHOPHOTOMAP (TOPOGRAPHIC)

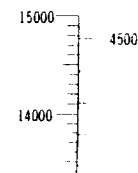
15867 / NW
 (HEBRON)

NGS) '30 47'30" 1 150 000 FEET '33 '34 75'45" 38°22'30"



WI-27
 Gethsemane
 Thomas Garrettson House
 (Kennerly House)

Wetipquin, Maryland Quadrangle
 1983





W1-27

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